

# CCC News Release

California Conservation Corps

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## **FAIRFAX CORPSMEMBER CHOSEN FOR RUSSIAN EXCHANGE**

A Fairfax man will spend part of his summer in Siberia, as part of a California Conservation Corps environmental exchange program.

Bodhi May, 24, is the son of Martha and Casey May of Fairfax and a 1999 graduate of Sir Francis Drake High School. Currently based at the CCC's Tahoe Center, he is one of 17 young people from six countries selected for the 2005 Tahoe/Baikal exchange. He has been in the Corps for nearly a year.

During the ten-week environmental exchange, which begins in mid-June, May will spend five weeks in the Lake Tahoe area and five weeks in Siberia, site of Lake Baikal. Lake Baikal is the world's largest, deepest and oldest freshwater lake; Lake Tahoe, while smaller, is scientifically similar to Lake Baikal, making the two lakes ideal for the study of mountain lake watersheds.

CCC Director Will Semmes, a board member of the Tahoe-Baikal Institute, said Campbell's participation is a great opportunity.

"Bodhi will have a one-of-a-kind chance to delve into environmental challenges both here and in Russia while also learning about another culture," Semmes said. "We've sent corpsmembers on this exchange since 1991 and it's a wonderful experience for all involved."

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Lake Tahoe area projects scheduled for the exchange this year include a fisheries restoration effort for the Lahontan cutthroat trout, a water runoff project dealing with lake clarity and the development of a mountain watershed education center. The participants will work with numerous government agencies, and nonprofit organizations in both California and Russia. They will also learn about current initiatives in environmental research and policy.

Since the Tahoe-Baikal exchange began in 1991, 16 members of the California Conservation Corps have participated. The CCC also has an international exchange every year with Conservation Volunteers Australia.

The California Conservation Corps is a state workforce development program under the Resources Agency. The CCC hires young men and women between the ages of 18 and 25 for a year of environmental conservation work and emergency services. For more information on the program, call 1-800-952-JOBS or visit the CCC's Web site: [www.ccc.ca.gov](http://www.ccc.ca.gov).

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